

From the Editor



It gives me great pleasure to bring to ISA members the first issue of the ISA eSymposium for the year 2013. The publication of this issue registers two positive changes for the eSymposium: one, its embedding in the newly-launched ISA's Social Justice and Democratization Space (SJ&D) and two, initiating steps for a new and fresh pair of editorial hands to assume responsibility for the publication. Let me elaborate on both these new beginnings. The idea for the Social Justice and Democratization Space was conceived by ISA Vice President for Research, Margaret Abraham, post the Second ISA Forum in Buenos Aires. The SJ&D is conceptualised as a landing platform and a resource centre for ISA members and requires members' active participation to function effectively. Crucially, it also speaks to ISA's National Associations and Research Committees and it is hoped that members of these constituencies will find SJ&D an exciting new resource site – for facilitating research, teaching, policy and practice initiatives of sociologists globally. The SJ&D (published by Sage) is already an active site. Given the digital medium of the ISA eSymposium and the SJ&D, the alignment between the two seems natural. Locating the publication in SJ&D will not only render it more visible but also enable readers to access it more easily. On the second matter, I am very pleased to introduce Dr. Kelvin Low, for now as Deputy Editor of the ISA eSymposium (but also its incoming Editor) who will assume full responsibility by March 2014. Dr. Low is Assistant Professor of Sociology at the Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore and has already begun work on the publication. He is a young, enthusiastic and energetic scholar with novel ideas and I am confident he will enhance the standing of the ISA eSymposium in the years to come.

This current issue carries three essays: 'Social Movement, Conflict and Change: Towards a Theoretical Orientation' by Partha Nath Mukherji; 'Multiple Belonging and the Challenges to Biographic Navigation' by Joanna Pfaff-Czarnecka and 'Migration, Displacement and Precarity in a Globalised World' by Habibul Haque Khondker. We also feature a visual essay entitled 'Post Card from Shahabag' by Seuty Sabur as well as an interview with Michael Douglass, in conversation with George Jose. I invite contributions and feedback from ISA members. Thank you for your support of the ISA eSymposium.

Kelvin Low
Vineeta Sinha
March 2013